(c) Does not arise.

Research for the steel industry

†553. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several organizations are involved in research work for the steel industry sector in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such organizations;

(c) whether Government have decided to introduce new system of research for the development of steel industry of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and average amount being incurred annually on steel research work in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are several organizations engaged in research work for the steel industry in the country. However, some of the prominent organizations carrying out R&D in iron and steel and allied sector are:

(i) Research and Development Centre for Iron and Steel, Steel Authority of India Limited, Ranchi (Jharkhand).

(ii) Tata Steel Ltd., Jamshedpur (Jharkhand).

(iii) National Mineral Development Corporation, Hyderabad (A.P.).

(iv) National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur (Jharkhand).

(v) Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar (Orissa).

(vi) Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (Karnataka).

(vii) Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (W.B.).

(viii) Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (U.P.).

(ix) Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

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†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.

(x) Bengal Engineering and Science University, Howrah (W.B.).

(c) and (d) To supplement R&D activities in iron and steel sector in the country, a virtual centre namely, Steel Research and Development Mission (SRDM) has been registered as a society under the Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 2001 at Hyderabad (A.P.). Its affairs and expenditure would be governed by a Governing Council comprising of eminent scientists, professionals and leading industrialists.

The average annual expenditure on R&D by the Indian steel plants and allied sector for the last three years is given below:

2002-03	Rs. 91.30 crore
2003-04	Rs. 121.00 crore
2004-05	Rs. 113.83 crore

Banning on DDT

554. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country has not banned the use and consumption of DDT;

(b) whether a study conducted recently has shown that exposure of DDT may slow down the progress of children;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that even after 33 years of ban in USA and UK, DDT is still detectable in 10 per cent population and DDE, the compound that DDT degrades to, is also detectable in nearly everyone; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government to ban DDT and use a near alternative of DDT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The use of DDT in agriculture has been withdrawn since 1989. Limited quantities of DDT, upto 10,000 metric tonnes per annum, are being used for control of vector borne diseases